

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Stephens College, South Campus

other names/site number Stephens College South Campus Historic District

2. Location

street & number 1200 E. Broadway [N/A] not for publication

city or town Columbia [N/A] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Boone code 019 zip code 65215

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [x] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [x] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [x] locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Mark A. Miles 10/07/05
Signature of certifying official/Title Mark A. Miles/Deputy SHPO Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

[] entered in the National Register.
See continuation sheet [].

[] determined eligible for the National Register.
See continuation sheet [].

[] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[] removed from the National
Register.

[] other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources Within Property	
		Contributing	Non-contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	4	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	0	1 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 objects
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	4	1 Total
<input type="checkbox"/> object			

Name of related multiple property listing.

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register.

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

EDUCATION/ college

EDUCATION/ education related

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions

EDUCATION/ college

EDUCATION/ education related

EDUCATION/school

7. Description

Architectural classification

Georgian Revival

Jacobethan

Materials

foundation limestone

walls brick

limestone

roof asphalt

other wood

See continuation sheet []

Narrative Description See continuation sheet [x].

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B** removed from its original location.

☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.

☐ **D** a cemetery.

☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F** a commemorative property.

☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

See continuation sheet [x].

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography See continuation sheet [x].

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record
- # _____

Areas of Significance

Education

Architecture

Period of Significance

1856-1955

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect: Jamieson, J. P.

Builder: Davis and Phillips Construction

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other:

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 6.98 acres

UTM References

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	558592	4311613	15	558734	4311613
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	558734	4311390	15	558592	4311390

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Debbie Sheals for Stephens College
 organization Private Contractor
 date May, 2005
 street & number 29 South Ninth Street Suite 204 telephone 573-874-3779
 city or town Columbia state Missouri zip code 65201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FOP for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Stephens College (c/o Doug Lange, Vice President of Operations and Facilities)
 street & number 1200 East Broadway Campus Box 2004
 telephone 573-876-7171
 city or town Columbia state MO zip code 65215

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Stephens College South Campus Historic District
Boone County, Missouri

Summary: The Stephens College South Campus Historic District is located at 1200 East Broadway, in Columbia, Boone County, Missouri. The district occupies a full city block, at the southwest corner of the intersection of East Broadway and College Avenue. The site covers roughly 7 acres of land, with mature trees and an open, park-like setting. There are five large buildings and one structure within the district boundaries. One of the buildings, Senior Hall, has already been listed in the National Register, and is not included in the resource count. The other four buildings are all contributing resources. The structure, which is non-contributing, is part of a late 1970s pedestrian walkway that crosses College Avenue. Construction dates for the four contributing buildings in the district range from 1917 to 1941. All five of the buildings in the district are large red brick buildings that have similar architectural detailing and massing. Senior Hall, which is the oldest building in the district, is located in the center of the south campus lot. The most visible building from Broadway is Hickman Hall, a Jacobethan Revival style building which was constructed on the north edge of the campus in 1922. A pair of dormitories built in 1918 and 1920, Wood and Columbia Halls, are located between Senior Hall and Hickman Hall, on the east and west edges of campus. Both of those are Georgian Revival buildings that received Jacobethan Revival style additions in the 1930s and 1940s. The fifth building, which is also the smallest, is the President's House. The President's House is a Georgian Revival dwelling that was built on the south edge of the campus in 1926. None of the resources in the district have seen any significant alterations in the last 50 years, and the campus in general exhibits a very high level of integrity of location, design, materials, setting, feeling, association and craftsmanship.

Elaboration: The South Campus of Stephens College is located just a block from the commercial center of Columbia, at the intersection of two major roads, East Broadway and College Avenue. The 6.98 acre district covers a full city block at the southwestern corner of the 86-acre Stephens College campus. The district boundaries correspond to the original boundaries of Stephens College; this area became the campus in 1857, and has been used by the school ever since.¹ The campus is bounded by four public streets; East Broadway runs along its northern edge, Locust Street is on the south, Waugh Street is on the west, and College Avenue is on the east. The property is relatively level, with well-kept lawns and large trees. An open metal fence runs along the sidewalks on all four sides of the district. Openings in the fences provide pedestrian access to interior sidewalks, and a private drive south of Senior Hall leads to a small parking lot near the center of the property.

¹ The original campus actually covered 8 acres in this same block; it has been assumed that street widenings and other public improvements have accounted for the variation in total acreage.

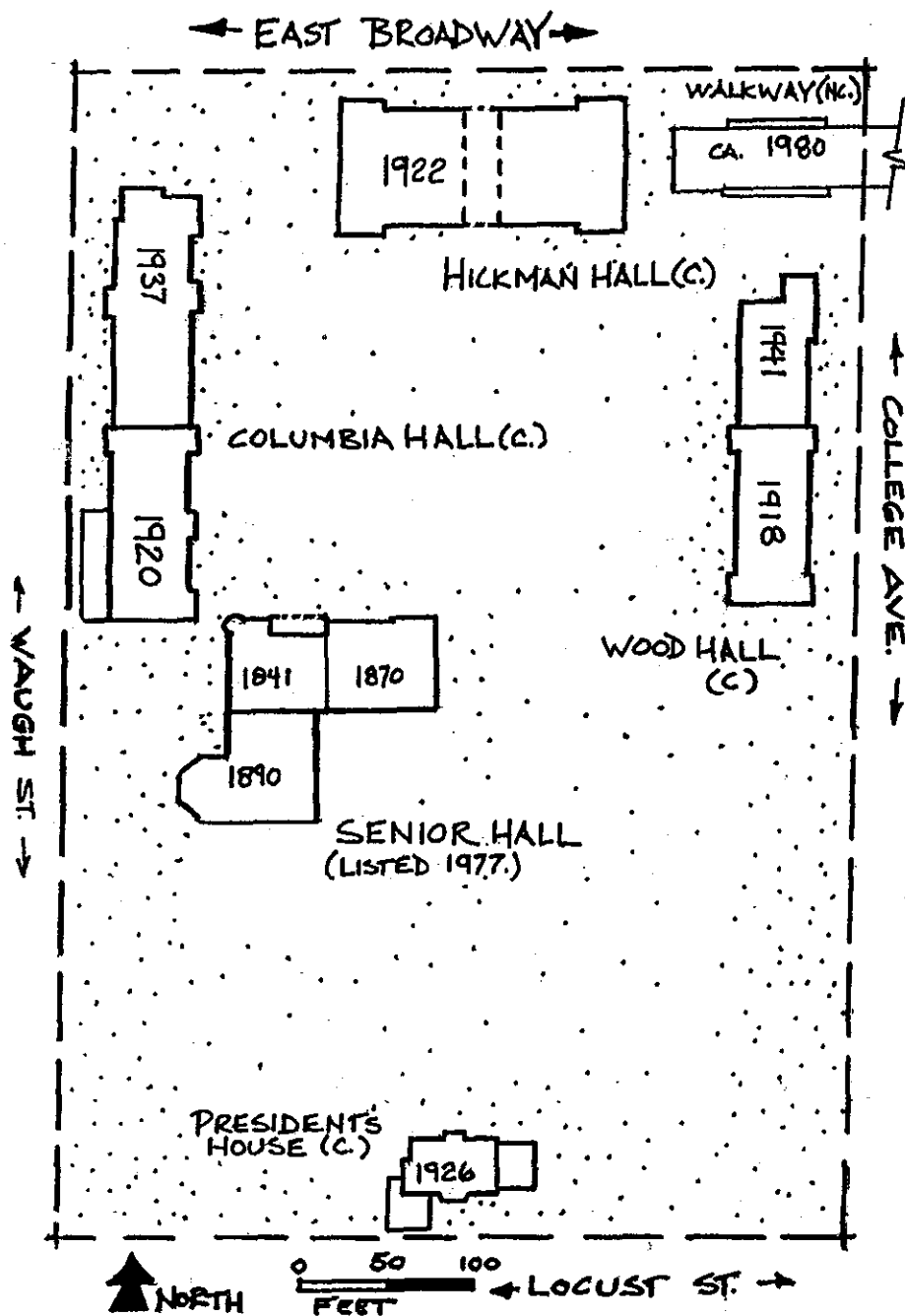
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Figure One. Site Plan. Drawn by Debbie Sheals, from a 1968 Sanborn Map of the property.



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The South Campus is loosely divided into two areas; the front (north) half of the property contains an open quadrangle which is lined with buildings, and the southern half is much more open, with only the President's House and lawns. The main public entrance to the campus is through a wide open archway in Hickman Hall, which sits directly on the sidewalk along Broadway. The base of a large pedestrian bridge is located at the northeast corner of the property. That walkway leads across College Avenue, to Stamper Commons, which is located directly east of the district, at the southeast corner of the Broadway-College intersection. The Commons building and walkway were built in the late 1970s or early 1980s; the portion of the walkway that is within district boundaries is counted as a non-contributing structure. The walkway is the only modern resource on the grounds, and the only non-contributing resource in the district.

All other resources are highly intact, and the campus today looks much as it did when the last addition was made to Wood Hall in 1941. It should be noted, however, that some early buildings on the south campus were demolished over the years. Two smaller dormitory buildings that sat on the south end of the grounds were demolished sometime after 1977, and a pair of buildings that were attached to Senior Hall have also been demolished. The general layout of the campus remains intact, however, and none of the surviving buildings have seen any exterior changes of note. Overall, the South Campus of Stephens College is an impressive historic space.

Individual Resources (in order of date of construction):

1.) **Senior Hall; 1841-1890.** This large three story brick building, which faces north to the front quadrangle, has an 1841 house at its core. The first major addition was in 1870, and it reached its present size and form after another expansion in 1890.² It is three stories tall, with red brick walls, a limestone foundation, and an irregular plan. The roofline varies; the east part of the building has a mansard roof, and other parts of the roof are hipped. There is a large, square tower with a mansard roof on the east side of the façade and a narrower round tower on the west front corner. The section of the building with a mansard roof was built in 1870, and the round tower and a large rear addition were built in 1890. The original 1840s house is in the center of the current building. The multi-light wood windows throughout are intact and in very good condition. The windows on the east section are arched, and the others are all straight-topped, with limestone sills and lintels. This building was fully restored after it was listed in 1977 and has been maintained well since then; it is in very good condition. [Listed as

² Construction dates are from the National Register nomination for Senior Hall, written by John Crighton in 1977. (On file with the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office, Jefferson City, MO.) Additions made after 1890 have since been removed.

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an individual building in 1977; not included in the resource count.] Photos 3, 10, 11.

2.) **Wood Hall; 1918-1941.** This three story tall brick dormitory was built in 1918, and a four and five story addition was made to its north end in 1941.³ The original building has simple Georgian Revival styling, and the addition exhibits elements of the Jacobethan Revival style. Wood Hall, which was called East Hall when new, was the first building on campus built specifically as a dormitory, and it continues in that function today.

The building is close to the sidewalk by College Avenue, and the façade faces west to the quadrangle. The original portion of the building has symmetrical fenestration and a low hipped roof. The façade features a central entranceway with an elaborate limestone surround, and a short parapet wall at the roofline is topped with limestone coping. A limestone panel above the door reads "1918 James Madison Wood Hall." Both the entrance door and a set of windows directly above it are ornamented with Classical Revival details. The parapet wall and roofline are shaped to accommodate the arched third floor windows, the tops of which extend slightly above the eaveline. The parapet is gabled above the entranceway, and curves to follow the line of the windows on the other bays. The end bays of both the west and east elevations extend out from the main wall a few feet, and have secondary hipped roofs. A small cross gable is centered in the south elevation. A string course and a wide cornice with a hidden rain gutter run along the exterior walls at the level of the second floor ceiling, and brick quoins mark the outside corners of the end bays. The multi-light wood windows are all early or original.

The part of the building that was added in 1941 is on the north end, near Broadway. That part of the building is taller, with more irregular massing. The land slopes down slightly towards Broadway, and the newer section of the building is almost five full stories tall at its north end. The windows are very similar to those of the original section, and the walls have the same type of red brick, along with matching brick quoins on several corners. Intermediate cornices and string courses on the new section also match the original. The new section differs from the old in that most of the roof is flat, with a high, crenellated parapet, and Jacobethan Revival style limestone ornamentation. The building is in fair to good condition, and has seen no exterior changes of note since the addition was completed in 1941. [c] Photos 5, 6, 7.

3.) **Columbia (West) Hall; 1920-1937.** This three and one-half to four story tall brick dormitory was built in 1919, and expanded northward in 1937; it is the largest building in the district. The ground slopes toward Broadway, and the building is three and one-half stories tall on its south end and four stories on its north end. It is on the far west edge of the campus, directly across from Wood Hall, and the façade faces east to the quadrangle. Columbia Hall closely matches Wood Hall in styling and materials. The original portion of the building has

³ Construction dates for the additions to all of the buildings in the district are from a 1967 Sanborn Map of the campus.

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symmetrical fenestration and a hipped roof. Like Wood Hall, the wide end bays of the original building extend out from the plane of the wall, and have brick quoins at the corners. The central entranceway also extends out a few feet; it is topped by a semicircular pediment, and the entranceway and windows above it are all surrounded by Classically inspired ornamentation of wood and limestone. The roofline features paired windows that rise above the eave line and are topped with small triangular pediments. A wide cornice runs along the upper part of all four walls and there are also narrow string courses of brick and limestone lower on the walls. The multi-light wood windows are all early or original.

The early addition to Columbia Hall differs from the one on Wood Hall in that it largely repeats the Georgian Revival styling of the original section. The 1937 addition is very similar to the original building; it continues the same roofline, cornice and string courses, and has matching brick and windows. The patterns of fenestration and massing are also almost identical. The entrance on the newer section is similar to the older one except that it is topped with a broken pediment and a bracketed cornice. A limestone panel above that doorway reads "Columbia Hall." There is a large square tower on the very north end of the building that has the same type of Jacobethan Revival ornament found on the addition to Wood Hall, as well as on Hickman Hall, which was in place by the time the addition was made to Columbia Hall.

Columbia Hall is highly intact, although in just fair condition; it has been vacant, or nearly so, for many years. The original wide cornice on both section of the building was replaced with a flat metal or wooden band at some point, apparently due to deterioration, and the smaller cornice and windows are in poor condition as well. A small low brick addition on the southwest corner is the only exterior change of note since the building was enlarged in 1936. [c] Photos 1, 2, 3, 9, 10.

4.) **Hickman Hall; 1922.** This wide three story building is the most publicly visible; it sits directly on Broadway, at the north edge of the district. It was built to house administrative offices in 1922, and has seen no additions or exterior changes of note since that time. It differs from the other buildings in the district in that it does not use Georgian Revival motifs; this is a Jacobethan Revival style building. It has red brick walls with limestone ornamentation, and a low hipped roof. The façade, which faces north to Broadway, has symmetrical fenestration, with a central tower, and wide end bays that extend out from the main plane of the front wall. The multi-light wood windows are clustered together in sets of two and three, and many of the window openings are accented with limestone ornament. The roofline is enlivened with small cross gables topped with limestone coping. The cross gables on the end bays are larger than those in the center, and topped with limestone finials. The tower is four stories tall, and topped with an elaborate limestone balustrade; the corners of the tower have finials that match those on the end gables. A large oriel window with a copper dome occupies the third floor of the tower, and the ground floor space contains a very wide open archway surrounded by tooled

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limestone trim. The archway, which runs all the way through the building, serves as the entrance to both Hickman Hall and the campus itself.

The south elevation of the building, which faces the quadrangle, is very similar to the façade. The ground floor archway has the same type of limestone edging, and it too, is topped by an accented central bay. That bay is topped by a curvilinear cross gable that is topped with the same type of limestone finial found on the façade. The roofline on the south wall and both wide end walls all have the same type of evenly spaced cross gables found on the façade, and limestone accents are used on all elevations as well. The building is in good condition, and highly intact. [c] photos 1,4,8.

5.) **President's House; 1926.** This two story Georgian Revival style house occupies the south end of the campus. It was built in 1926, and has two additions; a two-story side ell was probably built in the late 1930s or early 1940s, and a low garage on the back appears to have been added in the late 1950s or early 1960s. (Both additions were in place by the time the 1968 Sanborn map was made.) The back wall of the house is very close to Locust Street, and the façade faces north, to the campus. A curved driveway leads across the wide front lawn to the entrance of the house. The building has ornamental motifs that are similar to Wood and Columbia halls, with Classically inspired ornamentation, red brick walls, and multi-light windows. The original house has a low hipped roof and a symmetrical façade, with an accentuated central entrance bay. The front door is topped by an arched fanlight, and surrounded by a classical entablature. A triangular pediment tops the central bay, and brick quoins accent the corners of the bay and the main block of the house. The roofline has a wide cornice, topped by a low parapet wall, and there is a pair of gabled dormers on the front slope of the roof.

The two story ell, which is on the east side of the house, is nearly as large as the original house. The ell has very similar styling, with matching windows and brickwork. It has a flat roof, and a parapet and cornice that match those of the original part of the house. A secondary cornice runs along the first floor ceiling line on the addition. The garage addition on the back of the house is much simpler, with flat red brick walls, and no windows or added ornament. The flat roof of the garage contains a patio accessible from the back of the house. The President's House is highly intact and in fair to good condition; the garage is the only modern exterior alteration of note, and it is not highly visible from the front of the building. [c] Photo 12.

6.) **Pedestrian Walkway; ca. 1980.** The pedestrian bridge across College Avenue links the south campus to other parts of the college grounds. It was added to the northeast corner of the district in the late 1970s or early 1980s. The part that is in the district is a simple concrete structure with steps and a ramp to the crosswalk. It is tucked into a corner between the side

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walls of Hickman and Wood Halls, and does not have a significant impact upon the historic
ambiance of the South Campus. [nc structure] Photo 5.

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Summary: The Stephens College South Campus Historic District, in Columbia, Boone County, Missouri, is significant under Criteria A and C, with a local level of significance. The district is significant under Criterion A in the area of EDUCATION, for its long role as an educational institution. Stephens College is one of the oldest women's colleges in the state, and has played an important social, economic, and educational role in Columbia for more than a century and a half. The school has its roots in the 1833 Columbia Female Academy, and in 1856 it became the Baptist Female College. It was renamed to Stephens College in 1870, in honor of early patron James Leacham Stephens, Sr. The South Campus, which was the former estate of Oliver Parker, is the original campus; the Parker house and acreage were purchased by the school in 1857, and they have been college property ever since. The period of significance for the district runs from 1856, the year the school bought the property, to 1955, the arbitrary fifty year cut-off point.

The district is also significant under Criterion C, in the area of ARCHITECTURE. The south campus is the historic core of the school, and it contains one of the most cohesive collections of historic buildings on the campus. The contributing buildings in the district utilize simple Georgian Revival and Jacobethan Revival styling; many are the work of St. Louis Architect James Jamieson, who was also instrumental in the general layout of the campus grounds. The district includes Senior Hall, the oldest building on Campus, which was also the first building in Columbia to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (Listed 8/02/77.) The boundaries of the historic district correspond with the original boundaries of Stephens College, and the South Campus today looks and functions very much as it did during the period of significance.

Elaboration: The town of Columbia has been a center of higher education from its very first years of existence. The plat of the town that was filed in 1821 set aside 10 acres for a state university, and by the 1850s, the community was home to the University of Missouri, as well as two colleges for women. All three of those schools have survived to modern times. The campus of the University of Missouri now covers hundreds of acres south of the city center, and Columbia College, which was established in 1851 as the Christian Female College, operates at its original location north of the downtown area. Stephens College continues to occupy its original location as well, with a campus of over 80 acres that includes the school's original site, just a block from the central business district. Stephens is the only college in Columbia that continues to emphasize higher education for women; Columbia College has since dropped its focus on female-only education.

Columbia has also long been a center for the education of women; the first upper-level school for women in the community opened in 1833, several years before the University was

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chartered by the Missouri general assembly.⁴ The Columbia Female Academy was established at a public meeting in August of 1833, and within weeks, principal Lucy Ann Wales began holding classes. The first classes for that academy were held in the recently completed Presbyterian Church, and they soon raised enough money to erect a building of their own. In 1836, the academy moved into a new building at the corner of 10th and Cherry Streets. (That first school building survives, as part of the current Neidermier Apartments.) The curriculum offered for the girls, who ranged from under twelve to college age, included basic preparatory classes, as well as two years of more advanced courses that would probably correspond to upper level high school classes of today.⁵ The Columbia Female Academy thrived, and the school was granted a charter from the state legislature in 1837.

Columbia was chosen to be the site of the University of Missouri in 1839, and work on the new state college was soon underway. Enrollment at the University was limited to male students, however, and the need for higher education for young women continued to grow. In 1849, citizens of Columbia attempted to organize a full-fledged college for women. That effort failed, however, due in part to sectarian differences. There was a general break between the Disciples of Christ on one hand, and the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists on the other hand.⁶ After talks of a united women's college broke down, the two groups ended up establishing women's colleges of their own. In March of 1851, the Columbia Female Academy was re-chartered by the legislature to award full college degrees, and a month later, the Disciples of Christ opened the Christian Female College. Christian Female College eventually became Columbia College, and it remains in operation under that name today.

The early curriculum of the Columbia Female Academy was surprisingly diverse. An attention to religious matters is reflected by classes such as "Evidences of Christianity," and "Butler's Analogy of Natural and Revealed Religion to the Constitution and Course of Nature." Other class offerings show that the students were given a more sophisticated education than one might expect from a mid-19th century girl's school. They included Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Rhetoric, Geology, and Logic. Stephens College historian John Crighton wrote that "this curriculum should dispel the notion that girls in academies and seminaries of a century ago spent all their time in acquiring good manners and in learning to paint, play the piano, and do embroidery work."⁷ Crighton did make the point, however, that those early students were "a privileged group," and that the goal of the Female Academy was "to prepare

4 Alan R. Havig, *From Southern Village to Midwestern City: Columbia, An Illustrated History*, (Windsor Publications, Inc., 1984) p. 45.

5 John Crighton, *Stephens: A Story of Educational Innovation*, (Columbia, Missouri: The American Press, 1970) p. 17.

6 Crighton, pp. 28-34.

7 Crighton, p. 17.

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them to be intelligent wives and mothers.”⁸ He explained that most graduates of the Academy married, and assumed roles as the “partners of merchants, professional men, and large scale agriculturalists.”⁹

The Columbia Female Academy was to operate under its new charter for only a few years. Reverend Tyre C. Harris, a Baptist minister, was hired to run the reorganized school, and under his leadership, enrollment increased from 25 to over 100 in just three years. Harris resigned his post after the spring session in 1853 however, and the school fell upon hard times. The man hired to replace Harris, Professor T. J. Sloan, did not get his letter of acceptance in time for the fall semester to start, so the school was not in session for that term. Sloan was able to open the school in time for the winter term, but died suddenly just weeks before the next fall term was set to begin. The academy failed to open again that fall, and as one historian put it, “passed out of existence as a chartered institution.”¹⁰

The Columbia Female Academy was quickly replaced. Within a few months, local Baptists started work on the establishment of a Baptist college for women in Columbia which would serve as a replacement for the Academy. By March, of 1856, organizers had collected pledges for more than \$4,000, and on May 26, 1856, a board of curators was established for the Columbia Baptist Female College. There were many connections between the Academy and the new college. Two of the College’s seven new curators, Moss Prewitt and Warren Woodson, had been active curators for the Columbia Female Academy, and the trustees of the Academy quickly voted to give the College use of the Academy building at 10th and Cherry free of charge. Several early local historians described the new College as a straight successor of the academy, and many sources consider the founding date of the Academy, 1833, to be the year the college began its existence.¹¹ A description of the school that was included in the county atlas in 1875, for example, started the description of Stephens College with the history of the Academy and noted that the Academy “was succeeded by Baptist Female College.”¹²

The year 1856 marks the establishment of the campus in its current location. On March 4, 1856 Moss Prewitt purchased eight acres of land and a brick residence from Mrs. Mary L. Parker, widow of Oliver Parker. On April 7 of the same year, Prewitt deeded the land to the Baptist Female College for the same price he paid for it.¹³ That property now forms the South Campus of Stephens College, and the Parker house is the core of Senior Hall. A few months after that purchase, on January 17, 1857, the Columbia Baptist Female College

8 Crighton, p. 20.

9 Crighton, p. 20.

10 Crighton, p. 37.

11 John Crighton noted in his history of the school that the college started using the founding date of 1833 in 1933, when they celebrated a century of educational offerings. See pp. 51-52.

12 An Illustrated Historical Atlas of Boone County, Missouri, (Philadelphia: Edwards Brothers, 1875) p. 16.

13 Crighton, p. 48.

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was granted a charter from the state legislature. Classes must have started immediately, as the college held a commencement ceremony on June 30, 1857, and 70 students were enrolled for the fall term of the same year.¹⁴

The new property proved to be a good location for the college, and even provided room for agricultural pursuits during the Civil War. One history of the school noted that the back part of the campus was used as a pasture and garden space to help feed faculty and students during the lean war years, when cash was scarce.¹⁵ About half of the students at that time were boarders as well, and the Parker house was used for both lodging and classroom facilities. A large frame chapel that was erected east of the house in 1858 was also used for assembly purposes.

The next major milestone for the college came in 1870, when the Missouri Baptist

General Association voted to make the Columbia Baptist Female Academy the official state female Baptist college, as a counterpart to William Jewell College, the state Baptist college for men in Liberty, MO. The Columbia school won out over similar institutions in St. Louis and Liberty, in part because of a \$20,000 endowment promised to the school by prominent Columbia merchant and philanthropist, James L. Stephens, who was also a curator for the college. In honor of his generosity, the school was renamed to Stephens Female College, and it has carried his name ever since.



James L. Stephens, college benefactor.

Figure Two. James L. Stephens. From Stephens: A Story of Educational Innovation.

¹⁴ Crighton, pp. 53-55.

¹⁵ Crighton, p. 63.

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James L. Stephens was deserving of the tribute; he was well-known for his generosity and public spirit. Stephens was born in Kentucky in 1815, moved to Columbia as a very young child, and lived there for most of his life. His first business venture was in 1836, in a dry goods store, and by 1843 he had three stores of his own, in three different mid-Missouri cities. He also operated one of the largest farms in the county, and sold hundreds of mules every year. A county history written in 1882 noted that he was as active in public service as he was in business: "Few, if any individuals have transacted more business in Boone County, and none in his section have more generously contributed...scarcely a public enterprise of this town or county for the past twenty years failing to receive his cordial and hearty cooperation; and at least half of all he has earned...has been given to aid in building roads, churches, schools, etc."¹⁶

The new affiliation with the state Baptist association meant increased enrollment and a greater need for space. The board of curators approved a large addition to the Parker house, and work began in 1870. That project resulted in the addition of the large square tower and rooms to the east side of what is now called Senior Hall. Twenty years later, the building was expanded again; this time a round tower was added to its west front corner, and a large new ell was added to the back of the building. That second expansion of the former Parker residence brought the residential capacity of the college to 100, and the rooms were usually full; enrollment for the years 1870 to 1894 ranged from 110 to 182 students.¹⁷ Other improvements to the campus in that period included the construction of a large new brick chapel in 1897, and the addition of dormitory space to Senior Hall in 1906. (The chapel was demolished in the early 2000s.)

The last quarter of the 19th century also saw adjustments to the way the school operated. The student body had routinely included younger pupils, especially in the early years of operation, and some of the earliest changes included establishing distinct grade levels, and setting minimum age requirements for entrance into the college level courses. The school offered an impressive array of subjects, including science, psychology, philosophy, religion and humanities. An important change in requirements occurred in 1881, when the school switched to a balanced degree program. Requirements for all degree programs were changed to ensure students had well-rounded education that included many of the subjects offered, rather than the near-exclusive study of one field that had been in place.

The new century brought more changes to the offerings of the college. The Primary department was dropped in 1904, and the Preparatory division was upgraded to give it the scope of a regular high school. The school also established a two-year college degree in 1905, and for a while even began awarding full bachelors' degrees for just two years of study.

¹⁶ William F. Switzler, History of Boone County Missouri, (Western Historical Company, 1882. Reprint-Cape Girardeau, MO: Ramfre Press, 1970.) p. 955.

¹⁷ Crighton, p. 103.

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Universal standards for higher education came into effect in the late 1890s and early 1900s, however, and Stephens College administrators worked with the University of Missouri to meet their standards for both high school (preparatory) and college work. In 1913, Stephens was accredited by the University of Missouri as a Junior College, which meant that they had the same entrance requirements as the University's College of Arts and Sciences, and that the first two years of study was equivalent to the first two years offered by the University. A condition of that accreditation was that the school stop conferring A. B. and B. S. degrees for only two years of class work.¹⁸

The upgrade of educational offerings at the school reflected national trends in women's education. By the turn of the 20th century, it was much more common for women to attend college, and college in general had become more accessible to the middle class. One history of women's education noted that in 1870, only 1 percent of college-age Americans attended college, and just 21 percent of those students were women. By 1910, the total of college-age Americans in school had risen to 5 percent, and a full 40% of those students were women.¹⁹

Those new female college graduates also had more options upon graduation than did the girls who attended the Columbia Female Academy in the 1850s. By the early 1900s, it was much more common for women to work "outside the home," and college-educated women had increasing opportunities for professional level work. Although many of the most prestigious professions, such as law and the ministry, continued to be dominated by men, there were a number of professions open to educated women. Those "women's professions" included teaching at the elementary and high school level, nursing, library and social work, and, to a lesser extent, higher education.²⁰

Stephens College's accreditation by the University in 1913 was one of the first of many successes of James M. Wood, who served as the president of Stephens College from 1912 until 1947. It was under Wood's leadership that the school evolved into a modern, full service college, with an enrollment of well over 1,000 students.²¹ It was also under his leadership that all of the contributing buildings on the South Campus were constructed.

James Madison Wood was born in Wright County, Missouri, and spent the first sixteen years of his life in a log cabin near the Ozarks community of Hartville. School was offered just three months a year for much of his childhood, but by fifteen he had studied enough to be awarded a third grade teaching certificate. He spent the next several years alternating between teaching and attending high school, from which he graduated at the age of 21. The same year he married his childhood sweetheart, Miss Lela Raney, and together the couple attended Central Missouri State Teachers College, and then the University of Missouri. Wood

18 Crighton, pp. 139-140.

19 Nancy Woloch, Women and the American Experience, (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1994) p. 276.

20 Woloch, pp. 282-285.

21 Havig, p. 55.

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received a Master of Arts in education in 1911, and worked as a high school principal and superintendent of schools in southern Missouri before coming to Stephens in 1912.²²

Wood started his career at Stephens at a distinct disadvantage. The school had come upon difficult times; a major fundraising campaign had failed, the former president had resigned suddenly, and amid rumors that the doors were about to close, no students were enrolled when he began his employment with the school on June 1, 1912. Wood started recruiting students immediately, in spite of some curators' call to close the school, and opened the school that fall with 156 pupils.²³

The trend continued; by 1920, Wood was overseeing the education of over 500 students, and the school had embarked upon a major building campaign. The school grew so quickly under Wood's administration that enrollment had to be suspended in 1916 due to lack of space; the dorm rooms were full and there was a waiting list of over 75 students. Wood and the Board of Curators had seen the problem coming, however, and in 1915 had started to address the issue. Sleeping porches were added to the back of Senior Hall to provide limited new housing, and in an important move, the curators approved hiring an architect to develop a campus plan that would accommodate 500 students.²⁴

The curators hired St. Louis architect James Jamieson to lay out the campus and supply "preliminary sketches of the required buildings."²⁵ They must have liked what he came up with, as he was also chosen to be the architect for the first new dormitory, which was completed by the spring of 1918. Jamieson's campus plan called for the development of the front quadrangle, formed by the construction of three large new buildings, which, combined with the existing buildings, would enclose all four sides of the space. The open space of the quadrangle, which was said to have been planned to mimic the proportions of "ancient Greek theaters," was to "be used by the students of Stephens for many outdoor fetes and activities."²⁶

The curators chose an architect with considerable experience in the field of educational architecture. One of James P. Jamieson's first projects as an architect was to oversee the design and construction of new buildings for Washington University in St. Louis, for the firm of Cope and Stewardson, in 1900. In 1902, following the death of Mr. Cope, Jamieson became the sole architect for the Washington University project, and eventually designed several buildings on that campus. That project helped launched a career that included many high-profile collegiate projects, including buildings at Princeton University and Bryn Mawr College.²⁷ He also became quite familiar with Columbia, in addition to work at Stephens

²² Crighton, pp. 210-212.

²³ Crighton, p. 182.

²⁴ Crighton, p. 184.

²⁵ Crighton, p. 184.

²⁶ "Stephens to Erect \$150,000 Building," Columbia Daily Tribune, October 13, 1921, p. 1.

²⁷ Henry F Withey and Elise Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), (Los

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College, he and his firm were involved with at least 15 buildings on the University of Missouri Campus, including the large Gothic Revival Memorial Tower in 1927.²⁸ Jamieson joined forces with George Spearl in 1918, and worked with the firm of Jamieson and Spearl for most of his later career. The firm's work at the University of Missouri may have come about as a result of the Stephens College designs, Jamieson's first work at the University came a couple of years after he laid out the new campus for Stephens.

The new dormitory at Stephens, called East Hall, later to become Wood Hall, was ready for occupancy in the spring of 1918. Jamieson used red brick to match the existing buildings, but chose an up-to-date style that was to set the tone for future construction. As school historian John Crighton put it—"the general style of modified Georgian (on Wood Hall) set the architectural pattern for later buildings."²⁹ Jamieson's use of symmetrical fenestration and classically inspired ornament for the new building gave a nod to Colonial architecture, in a sub-style of Georgian Revival called Neo-Colonial by Marcus Whiffen.³⁰ The use of Georgian Revival styling for the new dorm was also appropriate to its residential use; Colonial Revival styling was becoming extremely popular for residential architecture of the time.³¹

The new building, which had rooms for 68 students and faculty, was filled almost before it opened, and Wood was pushing for the construction of a matching dorm before the first one was completed. That project, which began during World War I, ran into some difficulty, however, when fundraising for a college was branded as unpatriotic in the local paper. The furor caused a delay of almost a year in the fundraising effort. Wood and the curators managed to raise the needed money by early 1920, however, and in February of that year work began on West Hall (now Columbia Hall). The new dorm, which was also designed by Jamieson, was built as a near-twin of Wood Hall, with added interior conveniences of a kitchenette on each floor and an elevator. Jamieson placed the new building directly across the wide lawn from East Hall, a move that brought the quadrangle of his master plan close to completion.

The next major building project completed the quadrangle, and gave the college an impressive new public face. In late 1922, the curators voted to build a new administration building on the north edge of the campus, facing East Broadway. The new dorms had addressed the housing shortage for the time being, but the still-growing enrollment meant the

Angeles, California: New Age Publishing Company, 1956) p. 321.

28 Withey, p. 321, and MU In Brick and Mortar, 2002 University of Missouri-Columbia, Space Planning and Management Department, January, 2005 <<http://www.missouri.edu/%7eumcspace/historic/search.html>>

29 Crighton, p. 184.

30 Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles, (Cambridge and London: The MIT Press, 1969) p. 159.

31 Lee and Virginia McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, (New York: Alfred Knopf, 1986) pp. 321-326.

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school was in need of administration and classroom space. The new building, which was called "Science Hall" in an early newspaper article, is now named Hickman Hall, after David H. Hickman, the first president of the Board of Curators. Jamieson and Spearl drew the plans for the building, and the contractors were Davis and Phillips of Columbia.³²

The different function of Hickman Hall is reflected by a different architectural style as well. The building matches the new dorms in its use of red brick, limestone trim, and multi-paned windows, but differs in its architectural style. Hickman Hall is built in the Jacobethan Revival style of architecture, which looks to Elizabethan and Jacobean architecture of England for its models.³³ The distinctive ornamental shaped parapets, balustrades, and limestone finials of Hickman Hall are all typical of the Jacobethan Revival style, which was particularly popular for educational buildings in the early part of the 20th century. As historian Marcus Whiffen noted, "it was on educational architecture that the [Jacobethan Revival] style had its greatest impact proportionally."³⁴ The curators must have been pleased with the new style, as almost all of the buildings erected on other parts of the campus for the next twenty years can be classified as Jacobethan Revival, and most, if not all, were designed by Jamieson and Spearl.³⁵

New construction on the Broadway campus continued through the early 1920s. Two more dorms were constructed on the south end of the property in 1922 and 1924, and a new house for the president was built along the center of the back property line in 1926. The two dorms were demolished sometime after 1977, but the president's house has survived.³⁶ The president's house utilizes the same type of Georgian Revival styling found on Wood and Columbia Halls, albeit on a much smaller scale. The mid-1920s also saw an expansion of the land holdings of the school. Stephens historian John Crighton wrote that: "From 1922 to 1927 the college pursued an aggressive policy of land acquisition which endowed it with a campus of 150 acres of choice suburban property."³⁷

The president's house was the last new building to be erected on the South Campus, but it was not the last major construction project. Both Wood and Columbia Hall saw major additions in the late 1930s and early 1940s. In 1937, Columbia Hall more than doubled in size with a large addition to its north end. The addition repeated the Georgian Revival styling of the original dorm, with the exception of a square tower on the north end, which sits just a

32 Crighton mentions the contractors (p. 351), and Jamieson and Spearl's 1922 blueprints for the building are still on file with Stephens College.

33 Whiffen. pp. 178-179.

34 Whiffen, p. 181.

35 Crighton mentions the firm in association with several other building of the period, including Pillsbury Hall, which was built in 1940, p. 361.

36 The southern dorms were still in place when Senior Hall was listed in 1977.

37 Crighton, p. 353.

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few yards from the Broadway and the north property line. The tower, which has a flat roof and crenellated parapet more typical of Jacobethan Revival than Georgian architecture, provides a visual link to Hickman Hall. That theme was continued in 1941, when Wood Hall received an addition to its north end. That new section also utilizes Jacobethan Revival styling, with slightly irregular massing and a crenellated parapet ornamented with limestone medallions. A more elaborate treatment of the east elevation of that addition reflects the fact that the campus had by that time expanded to the north and east. The use of Jacobethan motifs on the addition to Wood Hall helped to create a visual tie not only to Hickman Hall, but also to the new Jacobethan Revival style buildings that the school had erected along College Avenue, north and east of the original campus.

Wood served an impressive 35 years as president of Stephens College, and when he retired in 1947, the school bore little resemblance to the small college he had taken over in the 1910s. The master plan for the Broadway campus had been fulfilled, and the original grounds of the College were filled with fully occupied, professionally-designed buildings. The college grounds had expanded to include more than 200 acres, along with riding stables, a lake, and many large new buildings.³⁸ Enrollment at the school had increased from the 100-some students he scraped together his first year, to just over 1,700 students in 1941.

The South Campus continued to serve as the administrative center of the school even after the expansions, and it serves that role yet today. Administrative offices still occupy Hickman Hall, and a fully restored Senior Hall has been a showpiece for the college for many years. The quadrangle laid out by Jamieson looks today much as it did in the 1940s, and the buildings of the South Campus Historic District serve as a tangible, highly intact reminder of the most significant period of development Stephens College has seen to date.

Appendix: Selected Chronology.

Chronology

1821 Plat of Columbia filed, town plan included 10 acres for a state university.

1833 Columbia Female Academy was established at a public meeting in August, and opened for school later that same year. Lucy Ann Wales was the principal. This academy has been widely considered the precursor to the college that is now Stephens.

³⁸ Charles Van Ravenswaay, ed. The WPA Guide to 1930's Missouri, (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, reprint 1986.)

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1834 Columbia College, an academy for young men, began its first term.

1837 Columbia Female Academy moved into its own building at the corner of 10th and Cherry Streets.

1839 Bidding started to get University, Columbia won, and the main building of the campus was dedicated in 1843.

1851 The Columbia Female Academy was re-chartered to award full degrees.

1851 Christian Female College, operated by the Disciples of Christ church, opened on April 7. That institution became Christian College, and is now Columbia College.

1855 Columbia Female Academy fails to open for the fall semester.

1856 Local Baptists meet to establish a new women's college. A board of curators for the Columbia Baptist Female College, headed by David H. Hickman, was created, May 26, 1856. c45. The board of curators included "Moss Prewitt and William Woodson, two of the most active members of the governing board of the academy".³⁹

1856, March 4. BFC curator Moss Prewitt purchases eighty acres of land and a brick residence from Mrs. Mary L Parker, widow of Oliver Parker. On April 7 of the same year Prewitt deeded the land to the Baptist Female College for the same price he paid for it. That property now forms the South Campus of Stephens College, and the Parker residence forms the core of Senior Hall.

1857, Jan 17. Columbia Baptist Female College was granted a charter from the state legislature.

1858 A frame chapel was built east of the residence, which was being used for classrooms and boarding of students and teachers.

1869 Missouri Baptist General Association votes to establish a state female college, as a counterpart to William Jewell College, the state Baptist college for men in Liberty, MO. Baptist schools in at least three Missouri communities compete for the designation.

³⁹ Crighton, p. 45.

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1870 The Columbia Baptist Female College is chosen by the state association, in part because of a \$20,000 endowment promised to the school by prominent Columbia merchant James L. Stephens. In honor of his generosity, the school was renamed to Stephens Female College.

1870 First major addition to the Parker house is made, adding the current east tower.

1890 The round tower and a rear addition to Senior Hall increased residential capacity of the college to 100.

1904-05 The school became in essence a Junior College, offering two year degrees.

1912 James M. Wood takes over as president of the college, and remains in office for the next 35 years. It was under his leadership that all of the contributing buildings in the district were erected.

1913 The University of Missouri accredited Stephens College as a junior college, and Stephens stopped awarding A.B/ and B/ S. degrees or only two years of study.

1915 St. Louis Architect J. P. Jamieson was hired to "draw tentative plans for a campus to accommodate 500 students, with preliminary sketches of the required buildings."⁴⁰

1916 Enrollment had to be suspended due to lack of space. Dorms were full and there was a waiting list of 75-80.

1918, spring. The new dormitory, called East Hall, (later to become Wood Hall) was ready for occupancy. Architect J. P. Jamieson.

1918 Fundraising for a new dorm called un-American due to the war and had to be suspended.

1919-1920 Stephens gave up all high school offerings to concentrate on college level courses. (Hardin College was supposed to go all high school, but did not.) p 190.

1920 Contract to construct West, or Columbia Hall, awarded in Feb. Architect: J. P. Jamieson, contractor, Davis and Phillips. Capacity: 60 Students, with a kitchenette on each floor and guest rooms for visiting parents. Also started a campaign of land acquisition—prior

⁴⁰ Crighton, p. 184.

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to this, most of the college property had been in the present district.

1921 Columbia Hall opened.

1920-21 Tuition room and board, \$600. Enrollment was up to 367 and "a progressively higher proportion of the girls were studying college level courses.

1922 Construction contract let for an administration building (later named Hickman Hall) To be used for office, classroom and laboratory space. Davis and Phillips of Columbia were the contractors. Also started work on a new dormitory on the southwest corner of the campus, (South Hall, now gone.)

1923 Administration building (Hickman Hall) opened.

1924, Lucy Wales Hall on the southeast corner of the campus, was completed.

1926 President's house built at the south end of the campus.

1926 Completion of the presidents house in 1926 "brought to a close to the major construction on the Broadway Campus."⁴¹

1930-31 enrollment 618, North Hall (Roblee Hall) built to house 191 girls.

1940-41 enrollment 1,706, tuition, room and board \$985.

1950-51 enrollment 1,890.

1960-61 enrollment 1,712.

1977 Senior Hall is listed in the National Register

At that time, Stamper Commons was not built, and there were nine buildings on the south campus then, these five, plus Gauntlet Hall, the Auditorium, South Hall, and Wales Hall.

1979 ca. Stamper Commons constructed across the street.

⁴¹ Crighton, p. 356.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the property is shown as the heavy dashed line on the site plan. (Figure One.) The property is defined by the Boone County Assessor's Office as parcel number 17-117-00-00-020.00 01.

Boundary Justification

The current boundaries encompass the original campus of Stephens College. This area represents all of the property that was purchased for school use in 1856 to retain integrity; and it has been used by the school ever since. (The only changes to the size of the 1856 parcel have been due to street widenings.) This is also the same parcel for which architect James Jamieson designed the first campus plan for the school.

Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

Stephens College

1200 East Broadway, Columbia

Boone County, MO

Debbie Sheals

January, 2005

Negatives on file with Debbie Sheals 406 West Broadway, Columbia, MO 65205

List of Photographs

1. Looking east on Broadway, Columbia Hall on the right, Hickman Hall on the left.
2. Looking south on Waugh Street, Columbia Hall.
3. Looking south from Broadway, Columbia Hall on the right, Senior Hall in the background, the edge of Hickman to the left.
4. Looking west on Broadway to Hickman.
5. Looking south on College, Wood Hall on the left, Hickman on the right.
6. Looking south from Broadway, Wood Hall on the left, Hickman on the right.
7. Looking north from the center of the district, Wood Hall on the right.
8. Looking north to Hickman Hall.
9. Looking northwest to the north end of Columbia Hall, Hickman Hall on the far right.
10. Looking southwest to the south end of Columbia Hall (right) and Senior Hall (left).
11. Looking south to Senior Hall, Columbia Hall is on the right.
12. Looking south to the President's House.

STEPHENS
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